NITE-TIMES NEWS

CHICAGO AREA TIMEX USERS GROUP

MEMORY MAP

C.A.T.U.G. CLUB OFFICERS

Here is the list of 1992 club officers and how to contact them.
The club has two strong SIGS, SPECTRUM/TS2068 and QL. If you
have questions about either of these fine machines or even the
ZX81/TS1000/TS1500 call one of the officers.   C=312, S=708.

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	PRIMARY FUNCTION
President	Nazir Pashtoon	S439-1679	The buck stops here...
Vice-President	Steve Cooper	S968-3553	Meeting Planning, etc.
Secretary	Al Feng	S971-0495	Records and Reporting
Treasurer	Frank Mills	S544-1918	Dues and Purchasing
Editor	Bob Swoger	S576-8068	Newsletter, BBS, etc.

Nite-Times Information

The Nite-Times News is the newsletter of the Chicago Area Timex Users Group. For an annual fee of $12.00 you can become a CATUG member with full membership privileges. Send your dues to:

CATUG TREASURER FRANK MILLS
417 S 47th AVE
BELLWOOD IL 60104

The Chicago Area Timex Users Group is pleased to exchange newsletters with other Timex and Sinclair supporting users groups at no charge. Send all newsletter requests to:

CATUG EDITOR BOB SWOGER
613 PARKSIDE CIRCLE
STREAMWOOD IL 60107-1647

If you desire to reprint any articles that appear here, please provide credit to the author and this newsletter.

We encourage your user group to copy this newsletter and distribute it at your regular meetings to your members free of any charge as we believe that this will encourage better meeting attendance. If you are a user group that feels as we do, please let us know in your newsletter so that we might do this for our members and keep our attendance up.

Articles originating from our group may be downloaded from our BBS and reprinted.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Al Feng
Paul Jones
Frank Mills
Bob Swoger, K9WVY

CLUB MEETINGS

The Chicago Area Timex Users Group meets on the THIRD Saturday of each month at the home of our meeting coordinator Steve Cooper in Downers Grove, Illinois from 1:00 to 5:00 PM. Steve's home is lovingly called

the CLUB HOUSE and is located at 1300 Maple Street in Downers Grove just 2 blocks southwest of the Downers Grove Public Library. Steve should be contacted evenings at 708/968-3553. to confirm the meeting schedule.

When visiting be careful of the Dutch Dooooooooorrrrrrrr.......

TREASURY NOTES

The balance as of August 1,1992 is $289.05 Our current paid membership stands at 18.

Frank Mills, Treasurer
Chicago Area Timex Users Group

SECRETARY'S NOTEPAD

CAT MINTS DURING DOG DAYS

Downers Grove, July 18, '92 Bob and seven dwarfs were in attendance this month.

Using a "mathematics" that must surely defy normal computation:

```
IF:  2068 ABED =  DEBA 8602
             =  4521 8602
             =  4[521] 86[02]
             =  486 [521][02]
             =  486 [5 3][2+]
             =  486 [5][3 2+]
             =  486 [5][6]+
             =  486 [30]+
```

THEN: well, you can certainly see that ABED was "lost" in the transition to acquiring a 486 VALue in the formulation.

Actually, it means that Abed has succumbed to the lure of sheer speed that he cannot get on his 2068 by acquiring no less than a 33 MHz 486-clone [I guess some of the coal buckets aren't empty].

The point of this make-believe math was to bring attention the matter of computers, literacy, and reality.

I offer the following maxim:

A MANUAL CAN'T
MAKE YOU
READ IT!

Now, as to the metaphysics of personal computing, one should note that computer literacy is more than ones-and-zeroes.

For example, while 'S_teve had mentioned that the pristine manual that he received with the DIABLO printer (circa 1984) was now dog-eared from reading, he had NOT bothered to set ANY of the DIP switches prior to our (Nazir, John, and myself) attempting to set it up for his QL.

To make a long story short, 'S_teve could have expedited the process by:

a) really reading the manual and then PRE-setting the DIP switches; and,
b) acquiring a fresh ribbon & appropriate paper.

'S_teve (if I were a rich man) is proud to STILL be using the original ribbon on his 10 year old, dot matrix printer, so I guess it may have been too much to expect him to have a fresh ribbon for his newly acquired DIABLO.

Still, due to 'S_teve's careless attitude, more time than might have been necessary was spent during the meeting getting his DIABLO to work on his QL.

If you have a problem with your computer, ask. That is why we are all part of a general community.

Asking for a demo of software or hardware to see if it does what you hope it might is OKAY; but, ...

... Don't be like 'S_teve and repeatedly ask (for example) about transferring data files from an Oliger formatted disk to a QL formatted disk AFTER being told that a recent issue of UPDATE! had printed a program LISTing (submitted by Paul Holmgren) to accomplish this.

Does this mean that a person like 'S_teve shouldn't ask questions. Not at all.

But, AFTER being advised of a probable solution to his query, a person -- like 'S_teve -- should undertake to type in the program LISTing himself, and then SAVE it onto an mdv_tape.

Then, at the next meeting, take one of his/her JELLOed disks and see if it will transfer files via the Holmgren program on a QL system to a QL disk. So, all of you out there, don't be a lame brain ...

And, while not all documents are well written, if you "cry wolf" too often for something that you can do yourself by simply reading the manual [here may be the REAL reason people have a problem with computer literacy] or doc-file that accompanies a piece of software you may eventually find yourself without help when you really need it.

READ! Read manuals, doc-files, and correspondences, too.

AND, PUH-LEEZE: If you have a 40 TRACK disk drive, and you know that the recipient only has a 40 TRACK, then don't send him/her an 80 TRACK disk.

Equally, if someone tells you that they only have 5.25" disk, for example, don't send them 3.5" disks; or vice versa.

If someone doesn't have disks, then don't send disks unless they say they can get someone in their local group to MOVE the files to the "proper" medium!

More news: By the time you read this, the "DaytonFest" will have come and gone. An unknown number of riders may "hitch a ride" with 'S_teve if he decides to take the trip. If you saw any of us there, we were sharing the table with Don Lambert and T/SNUG.

NO!! T/SNUG is NOT SNUG. As of mid-July, SNUG's treasury funds have NOT been forwarded to T/SNUG.

T/SNUG is also NOT CATUG.

Again, Mel Nathanson sent the SNUG funds to Paul Holmgren back in the earlier part of the calendar year. All SNUG underwriters will be "absorbed" into the T/SNUG if-and-when the list and funds are forwarded.

Let me extend apologies on the behalf of T/SNUG for any delay and/or confusion related to this matter.

Almost finally: we hear/read rumors of QL clones due before the end of the year (perhaps, before this makes it to print); or, at least a new motherboard. While I don't know what QVIEW and MIRACLE may have waiting in the wings, I doubt it is a 68030 based computer.

With the return of the name of SINCLAIR RESEARCH LTD. to Sir Clive, the copyrights to QDOS may have lapsed, too. So, it is plausible that a greater effort would be made now that seven years have passed.

Too bad (for us) that AMSTRAD decided to squander an opportunity to compete for the 68000 based market in Europe in favor of his PC-clone.

Finally, despite the recent "rally" in Sterling strength (approximately $1.90/BPS during the third week of July), the currency is actually under [or, soon to be] a great deal of pressure due to the increase in the Lombard rate. I can't tell you where the exchange rate will be by the time you read this, but it could be $0.10-0.25 lower than it is.

Plan accordingly.

That's all the news that isn't.

Al Feng, Secretary
Chicago Area Timex Users Group

INPUT/OUTPUT

Abed Kahale writes:
Al, Son of Platypus, you have to be creative to understand my "Math". Not everyone else except yourself is stupid. If you still come up with =4 then time has passed you by. Where have you been all this time? repairing you QLs? the microdrive? seating down your **"sea moss"** on the P C Board? or is it the RGB connector or the power supply?

I have to be creative to fill my empty coal bucket. In fact, according to the US Patent Office, I AM INVENTIVE with EIGHT patents to my name on electronics and electro-mechanical designs.

Here is my SuperBASIC Al;

```
    2+2=ZX-80
      =ZX-81
      =TS2068
      =486:for > your 386$
```

Is this too much?
Are you "LOST"?
Is your cranium out of coal?

My maxim for the day is:-
**An empty bucket can't
make you
fill it!**

Al, I do not profess to be a programmer, but in 1975 I wrote my first BASICA to a time sharing IBM mainframe when you were still wet behind the ears. Are you still this way? That program had to do with the Modulous of Elasticity, Torsional Modulous, Shear etc. things you will never understand. I will show it to you next time.

Here is my axiom:-
**A brain ceases to
function when it
is put to
pasture.**

Paul Jones writes:
I have a LarKen V1 system with DSDD drive and EPROM socket installed. Please send a LarKen SPECTRUM ROM. [*You got it, Paul and also find LogiCall and V3 up-grade kit for the extra you sent in.* --==GATOR==--]

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FROM THE EDITORS DISK

!!! MISSING NEWSLETTERS !!!
USER GROUPS
!!!!! PLEASE HELP US !!!!!!

Once again we put out a plea for a copy of your newsletter. Your newsletters are important to us. Sometimes the mighty mail carriers of the US do not get your newsletters to our group. Elsewhere in this newsletter is a sample of how two of your newsletters arrived. The post office just ain't what she used to be!

PLEASE SEND US ANOTHER COPY of your missing newsletters so that we may share with our members the following:

CATS	JAN 92
FDD	1ST
QZX	NOV 90
QZX	OCT 91
QZX	JAN 92
ISTUG	MAR/APR 91
SWYM	MAR 91

If the same thing has happened to your group in regards to our newsletters, please let us know and we will forward ours to you. SEND TO:

BOB SWOGER
613 PARKSIDE CIR
STREAMWOOD IL 60107-1647

Bob Swoger, Editor
Chicago Area Timex Users Group

NEWS ITEMS

The DMA ComputerFest in Dayton is scheduled for August 29 and 30 with a cut-off date for flee market tables of June 30. See UPDATE magazine for details.

GATOR's TWISTED PAIR

! ! ! R E M E M B E R ! ! !
We now have a 24 hour BBS and encourage you to exchange mail and contribute to the Download Section. Use it and have fun!

The board has become semi-private at this time. Please call Bob Swoger at 708/576-8068

for information as to how to log on.

Bob Swoger, SYSOP
Chicago Area Timex Users Group

ITEMS FOR SALE THROUGH THE CLUB

It has come to our attention that some LarKen Users are using something less than Version 3 firmware. The club will supply updated EPROMs, SYSTEM DISKS, and MANUALS for just $5 which includes shipping and handling, free if ordered with LogiCall or Spectrum ROM.

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If you are a LarKen LK-DOS owner and would like a SPECTRUM V2 kit for your system we will supply an EPROM, socket and 74HCT32 for $12 which includes shipping and handling. The install instructions are in your LarKen manual. We shall not be responsible for your install job. AERCO owners need only the SPECTRUM EPROM for $10 $10 is forwarded to LarKen.

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If you have a mismatch between you LarKen DOS EPROM and your Western Digital Controller chip, we will send you the correct one for free on behalf of our friends Rod Gowen of RMG and Larry Kenny of LarKen. You should be using L3 EPROMs with WD1770 controller chips or L3F EPROMs with WD1772 controller chips. Check it out! Call in requests to Bob Swoger at W708-576-8068 H708-837-7957

SPECIAL DEALS AND BUYS

NAP_Ware (Nazir A. Pashtoon's new endeavor) announces the availability of all Timex or QL PAL (Programmable Array Logic) chips. If interested, call him evenings on 708-439-1679.

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LogiCall Integrated Software Ensemble easy operating system for LKDOS in both TS2068 and Spectrum modes includes LogiCall 4.8 TASWORD TWO V2.7, VU-CALC V1.3, VU-FILE and MTERM2 Drivers modified for LogiCall, DISKS.B1 TAPES.B1 steprt.B1 HEADER.BT (tape header reader by Nazir

Pashtoon) FORMAT.B_ MOVE.BL and more all on 2 SSDD disks for $5. You must specify your LK-DOS EPROM version. If you already have a copy you are encouraged to distribute copies to other LarKen LK-DOS users for as you see by the price we are not in the business of making money on it, just making LarKen's LK-DOS even better!

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So you like to fly? The 747 Flight Simulator for Spectrum by Derek Ashton of DACC sold over 40K copies in EUROPE. Requires Spectrum Emulator. At this time supplied on LarKen SSDD disk only for $10 which goes to Derek Ashton, now working at MOTOROLA with Bob Swoger. Call in requests to Bob at W708-576-8068 H708-837-7957

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Want to try MS-DOS first before you switch? Try QLuMSi DOS, the MS-DOS SIMULATOR on your QL first.
QLuMSi (disk/specify) $15

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Try Al's Side-Kick on your QL. It is an Auxiliary Operating System (AOS) like LogiCall and can make your life on the QL a lot easier [*you may never lust for MS-DOS again!*]
QLUSTer (disk/specify) $10
CALL: Al Feng H(708) 971-0495

ARTICLES

MODEM TIME! 1st MTERM II
by
Bob Swoger

There is a story of a visitor at a wake looking down at the man in the casket and remarking to the man standing next to the casket "Now he's with his LORD". But the man said "I'm afraid not, he didn't believe the GOD". "Oh! So he's in the other place?" the visitor asked? "No, he didn't believe in that either. The man was an atheist!" was the reply. " Oh, too Bad," said the visitor, "all dressed up and no where to go!"

I think of this story every time I see a computer setup with no modem on it. It's like a race car with no tires. It sits there and makes a lot of noise but it's going nowhere!

In this age of the computer I am amazed to see this situation so often. I type something for a manual and print it out on paper. I give it to the publication department and they have someone else type it into another computer. I could have uploaded it to them and saved all that typing time and the ensuing mistakes.

Someone wants to put an ad on the BBS and gives it to me printed on an 8 X 11 piece of paper or a person submits an article for a the newsletter printed on paper wanting me to type it into the computer! I have better things to do with my life!

If these people would just invest in a modem and terminal software, the data could be transferred from one machine to another in no time at all and the two machines wouldn't even have to be of the same brand name! They all speak ASCII!

One of the reasons the BBS's were invented was for the exchange of information. I have seen good computer programs written and articles written in magazines or periodicals that just don't get around enough because they were on paper and not made available on a BBS. What a loss to the community! I have friends that work during other parts of the day than me and we still stay in touch through the BBS Electronic Mail service. Less interruption by telephone calls is also a result of E-MAIL. You don't have to be on the other end when someone calls.

I have seen modems now starting at $5. Most machines can get free terminal software so what excuse have you got now?

If you are a TS2068 LarKen/LogiCall owner with a WESTRIDGE 2050 modem by Anchor, (also labeled TS2050), you will

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want to have at least three terminal software packages. They are MTERM II, LOADER V and MAXCOM. You will be limited to 300 baud but you will have the ability to communicate with any board supporting that speed. You will be able to transfer new software from the host system to yours and much more.

We will start with an article for the WESTRIDGE 2050 modem by Anchor using MTERM II software from Micro-Systems Software Inc., a company presently developing software for AMIGA computers. T/SNUG asked the author, Steve Pagliarulo, if he would release the program to the public domain but he stated that he still uses portions of the code elsewhere.

MTERM II is the most outstanding terminal program we have for the TS2068 computer. To fully understand it, one needs the MTERM Software manual from WESTRIDGE, E. ARTHUR BROWN Company's notes for printer drivers, Barry Carter's SMART TERMINAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS manual and the VIDTEX portion of the GETERM manual from Greg Miller to explain the screen control portion of the software. Hopefully I can provide that information in a future article.

One more manual, the LOADER V manual from Kurt Casby would make the package complete. More on that next time.

Below is a driver for the MTERM machine code to be used with the LarKen/LogiCall system inspired by the original Mterm sent out with the first Anchor modems. Note that Steve's present address and phone number is given in case he changes his mind.

MTERM2.B1

```
  1 GO TO VAL "9998"
 10 REM   Version 1.021 1983
MICRO-SYSTEMS SOFTWARE INC.
By Steve Pagliarulo Suite 201A
12798 W FOREST HILL BLVD
WEST PALM BEACH  FL  33414
   407-790-0772
```

```
 20 CLEAR VAL "54015": LET A=SG
N PI: LET B=VAL "7": LET C=VAL "
4": PAPER A: INK B: BORDER A: CL
S
 30 BEEP VAL ".15",VAL "5"
 40 PRINT AT VAL "2",VAL "5";"R
EACH MORE OF THE WORLD";AT C,VAL
 "14";"With"
 50 PRINT AT B,PI; FLASH A;"Mic
ro-Systems Software Inc."
 60 PRINT AT VAL "12",VAL "8";"
SMART TERMINAL II"
 70 PRINT AT VAL "15",VAL "3";"
TELECOMMUNICATION SOFTWARE"
 80 PRINT AT VAL "20",VAL "9";
FLASH A;"PROGRAM LOADING"
 90 RANDOMIZE USR CODE "d": LOA
D "mterm2.CV"CODE : BEEP VAL ".0
42",CODE "2": PAUSE VAL "2.8": B
EEP VAL ".042",CODE "2": RANDOMI
ZE USR VAL "54016"
9992 RANDOMIZE USR CODE "d": SAV
E "MTERM2.B1" LINE PI: RANDOMIZE
 USR CODE "d": SAVE "mterm2.CV"C
ODE VAL "54016",VAL "9216"
9994 REM RANDOMIZE USR CODE "d":
 SAVE "phnmbr.Cu"CODE VAL "61373
",VAL "1495"
9998 RANDOMIZE USR CODE "d": LOA
D "L.B1"
```

Certainly this is the time to acquire a TS2050 modem for your TS2068 if you don't already have one. Frank Davis will give them away to schools if he can't sell them. Call him at Mechanical Affinity and be sure to have yours when you are ready for it or they will be 'ALL GONE' when you really need one!

CHANGES for QLUSTer 4.370
by Al Feng

A couple of changes have been made to the QLUSTer program to accommodate the ever evolving disk interfaces available for the Sinclair QL.

Partly because the GOLD CARD now allows for multiple disk density FORMATs from 3.5" ED drives, FORMAT has been removed as an internal QLUSTer function and has been replaced with WREName.

Currently, to FORMAT any medium EXEC_W either the FORMAT_EXE (essentially the QLONE program) program independently or from within QLUSTer.

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At the present time, FORMAT_EXE only works in "default" mode for the specific drive. This will change if I can access the appropriate information from any/someone who already has a GOLD CARD.

Hard-COPY [F3]

Hard-COPY now shares code with pre-VIEW. This means that the output to your printer can now be aborted.

"Borrowing a page" from Bill Cable's HELPER program whereby Bill's program distinguishes ASCII and non-ASCII characters, QLUSTer (and, QLuMSi) now has similar capabilities.

Non-ASCII output is printed as BLANK_SPACES when in Hard-COPY and as green_characters when in the pre-VIEW function (vs. black for ASCII).

RENAME [F4]

As before, 'RENAME' allows you to change the name of a file on any medium with the existing proviso that the name be less than 19 characters. You may INPUT a longer name, however, you will not be able to access it via the "standard" QLUSTer functions.

The 'RENAME' facility traps for duplicate filenames on the same medium.

WREName [F4] </>

'WREName' allows you to either change a string of characters within a filename or add/remove a prefix (e.g., 'BAK_'). The process is begun in the RENAME portion of QLUSTer, and completed by accessing the 'WREName' portion by using the '/' key.

Note that in all the "instructions" you should look at the bottom window of the screen and respond to the prompt, accordingly after the last <ENTER> of the sequence.

To REPLACE a string:

    INPUT the "old" string
        while still in the
        RENAME portion,
    PRESS '/' (the backslash),
    PRESS <ENTER>, and then
    INPUT the "new" string, and
    PRESS <ENTER>, again ...
        [respond to prompt(s),
        accordingly].

To REMOVE a string:

    INPUT the "extension"
        with an '_' (underscore)
        while still in the
        RENAME portion,
    PRESS '/' (the backslash),
    PRESS <ENTER>, and then
    PRESS <ENTER>, again ...
        [respond to prompt(s),
        accordingly].

To CREATE a prefix:

    PRESS the <ENTER> key
        without putting any
        other input at the
        NAME prompt while in
        the RENAME portion,
    PRESS '/' (the backslash),
    INPUT the "prefix" name
        you want to add to
        the front of a series
        of filenames,
        PRESS   <ENTER>   ...
        [respond to prompt(s),
        accordingly].

Despite all of these changes, QLUSTer's current compiled size is now less than 32K in length.

Same upgrade policy as before for any registered owner of QLUSTer/QLUTter (incl. Emulator Companion). Send $2.00 to:

    AL FENG
    15 WAKE ROBIN COURT
    WOODRIDGE, IL   60517-1751

HAPPY TRAILS,
AND COMPUTING, TO YOU!

ADS

To put an AD in the BBS and newsletter, upload a file with the filename.filetype:

         CATUGxxx.ADS

where xxx is your initials.
! ! ! Our ADS are free ! ! !

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Dear Customer:

We sincerely regret the damage to your mail that occurred during handling in the Postal Service.

We realize how important your mail is and you have every right to expect it to be delivered intact and in good condition. We are very concerned with incidents such as this and do everything possible to reduce mail damage to the lowest possible level.

Because the Milwaukee Post Office handles over 4 million pieces of mail daily, it is imperative that mechanical methods be used. This volume and modern production methods do not permit personal attention to individual pieces of mail.

Most problems occur when contents become separated from poorly prepared envelopes or containers. This causes damage to that piece as well as any properly prepared mail that may follow it. No matter how careful we are, mail will occasionally be damaged.

Whatever the circumstances, please accept our apologies for this most unfortunate incident.

Manager, Consumer Affairs
Milwaukee Division